# **Culture Information**

# Trixi® Combinations

- Perfectly matched combinations create ssuccessful retail sales whatever container size
- Triple stuck plugs fill out fast
- Use just 1 plug per 1-3 litre pot or 3 plugs per 40cm basket or ccontainer
- Numerous Trixi® combinations available in species mixtures and mixed species combos

Please note that as Trixi<sup>®</sup> Combinations are available in number of species. This culture sheet deals with the growing on of the Trixi<sup>®</sup> plug only. If more species-specific cultural information is required, please see the relevant Cultural Sheets.

#### Media

Use a soilless medium with good aeration, drainage and water-holding capacity, and a pH of 5.4 to 5.8. pH levels above 6.0 may result in deficiencies particularly with Calibrachoa.

## **Temperature**

- Start at 20°C 22°C days and 16°C 18°C at night.
- In about 3 weeks, temperature may go down to around 18°C 20°C days and 13°C 16°C at night.

#### Light

High light levels will promote compact growth.
Plants will stretch at low light intensities.

#### Watering

- Allow plants to dry slightly between waterings in the first half of the crop cycle. Do not allow the plants to wilt during this period, as finished quality will be reduced.
- As the crop matures and begins to bud up and flower, avoid water stress entirely and remember that the crop will need more frequent irrigation.

#### Pot size

• Trixi® works great in a variety of pots and baskets, So, you can grow the size your customer wants.

Plant one Trixi<sup>®</sup> plug per 1, 2 or 3 litre pot or three Trixi<sup>®</sup> plugs per 40cm basket or container. Single plug liner stage pots range from 10.5-12cm.

## **Crop time**

1-3 litre pot production will require 5-8 weeks depending on the season and the desired finished size. For 40cm baskets and containers 10-12 weeks will be required again depending on the season and desired finished size.

#### **Fertiliser**

- Maintain constant and well-balanced fertilization as soon as rooting has been established.
- Leach pots periodically with clear water to avoid build-up of salts.

#### **Pinching**

- Trixi® plugs are supplied un-pinched (except Lobelia). The number of pinches required depends on the variety of Trixi® plug selected. But in general, 1-2 litre pots will require one pinch, whereas 3 litre pots, containers and baskets may require two pinches. Lobelias should not need a second pinch.
- When pinching ensure that all three varieties are pinched to provide uniformity in the pot.
- The date of pinching will affect flowering dates; therefore, do not pinch later than week 11 if flowering plants are required before week 18.

# **Controlling growth**

 Grow plants with adequate light and space providing the correct temperatures for each stage of growth.

# **Common problems**

Insects: Thrips, Spider Mites, Aphids.Diseases: Pythium, Botrytis and Thielaviopsis.A regular fungicide and insecticide program would be recommended.

Problems	Causes
Plants collapse	Stem canker (Botrytis)
	Plants grown in saturated soil for extended period
	of time ( <i>Pythium</i> )
Excessive vegetative growth,	Over fertilisation under low light conditions
lack of flowers	Low light and over watering; wet media
Foliage necrosis, leaf spot	Drying out between waterings
_	Excess minor nutrient levels in media
Poor branching, thin plants	Low fertilisation in early stages of crop

Ball Colegrave cultural information is issued as a guide to growers, based on our own trials experience. It is not intended as a blueprint for growing. Any chemicals referred to should be used only in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.